
Being Prepared for an Epidemic of Yellow Fever

CDC
Centers for Disease
Control and
Prevention

Public Health Program for Yellow Fever

1. Prevention Program

- is based on vaccinating susceptibles**
- add YF vaccine to EPI program**

2. Plan for Responding to Epidemics

- early detection of epidemics**
- prompt mass vaccination of high risk groups**
- mosquito control measures**
- provision of funding and resources**

Preparedness Components - 1

- **Ensure the surveillance system can detect yellow fever**
- **Ensure the ability to get laboratory confirmation**
- **Identify and address training needs**
- **Maintain reserve stock of vaccine and supplies
(*national level of responsibility*)**
- **Organize an epidemic committee**

Preparedness Components - 2

- Plan logistics and staff needed to respond
- Ensure financial support is available
- Organize vaccination teams
- Make an emergency response plan
- Evaluate epidemic preparedness
- Plan for prevention

Preparedness

- **Evaluate level of preparedness**
 - *Before* an epidemic
to be ready to detect & respond
 - *During* an epidemic
so the response is effective
 - *After* an epidemic
in order to improve

Can the Surveillance System Detect an Epidemic of Yellow Fever?

- **Routine Reporting & Emergency Notification**
 - Can health workers (HWs) recognize YF?
 - Do HWs know the case definition of YF?
 - Do HWs know HOW to report?
 - Do HWs know WHAT to report?

- **Are routine reports ?**
 - complete?
 - sent regularly?
 - on time?

Can the Surveillance System Detect an Epidemic of Yellow Fever?

- **Investigation Team**

- Have members been identified?
- Have members been trained or briefed on their duties?
- Has funding for the investigation been found?
- Have supplies been provided for?

Ensure the Ability to Get Laboratory Confirmation-1

- **If relying on a cooperating reference laboratory**
 - **Has a cooperating laboratory been identified?**
 - **Have any funds needed been allocated?**

Ensure Ability to Get Laboratory Confirmation-2

- **If District Personnel will collect and transport specimens:**
 - **Is a person trained to collect specimens?**
 - **Are supplies for collection & transport available?**
 - **Is cold chain ready?**
 - **Have funds been allocated?**

Train Staff in Knowledge and Skills Needed to Detect and Control Epidemic Yellow Fever

- **Determine staff responsibilities**
- **Decide who needs to be trained and what they need to learn**
- **Make a training plan**
 - **what training is needed before an epidemic?**
 - **what training will be needed when an epidemic begins?**
- **Conduct training**

Training for Clinical Staff Before an Epidemic

- **Basic Epidemiology of yellow fever**
- **How to recognize yellow fever**
- **Case definitions**
- **How to report suspected cases**

Train Clinical Staff

At the Start of an Epidemic

- **Clinical management**
- **Record keeping / How to report / What to report**
- **Inventory of supplies**
- **Conducting rapid mass vaccination campaign**
- **Mosquito control measures**
- **Public education**

Training for District Staff Before an Epidemic

- **Basic yellow fever Epidemiology**
- **Surveillance for yellow fever**
- **How to report suspected yellow fever**

Training for District Staff At the Start of an Epidemic

- **Field investigation**
- **Data collection & analysis**
- **Arranging for laboratory confirmation**
- **Reporting**
- **Inventory, ordering supplies**
- **Planning & conducting rapid mass vaccination**
- **Mosquito control measures**
- **Public education**

Identify & Address Training Needs

- What % of clinical staff are up-to-date on Yellow Fever?
- Is there a plan to train HWs *before* an epidemic?
Is it being done?
- Is there a plan to quickly train HWs at the moment of an epidemic?
- Has funding been allocated for training?

Maintain Reserve Stock of Supplies

- Is there a reserve stock of Rx supplies?
- Is there a reserve stock of vaccination supplies?
- Has funding been found for the reserves?

Optional

- + *Is there a reserve stock of vaccine?*
- + *Is there a reserve stock of materials needed for laboratory confirmation*

Organize Epidemic Committee

- Is there a YF disease committee?
OR
- a YF subgroup of an epidemic committee?
- Does the committee meet regularly?
- Are members working to prepare the district for a possible epidemic of YF?

Plan Staff and Logistics

- Have specific responsibilities been decided?
- Is there a plan for reassigning staff during an epidemic?
- Is there a plan for enlisting additional personnel (e.g. nursing students?)
- Is there a plan for setting up Temporary Treatment Centers?
- Have logistics needs been identified?
- Has funding for staff costs and logistics been identified?

Financial Planning

- Have costs related to *preparation* for an epidemic been identified?
- Have costs related to *investigation and confirmation* been identified?
- Have cost related to *response* been identified?
- Has a source of funding been found for each expense?

Vaccination Campaign

- Have members been identified?
- Have they been trained?
- Is the cold-chain prepared?
- Has a source of supplies (except vaccine) been identified?
- Have possible sites been identified?
- Has funding (other than for vaccine purchase) been identified?

Emergency Response Plan

- **Is there an Emergency Response Plan for responding to an epidemic?**
- **Are all persons and agencies that are mentioned in the plan, aware of the plan?**

Evaluate Epidemic Preparedness

- **Has the district's level of preparedness been evaluated?**
- **If so, were the results of the evaluation acted on?**
- **Are regular, periodic evaluations scheduled?**

Plan for Prevention of Yellow Fever

- **Yellow Fever Vaccine in EPI Program**
 - Is YF included in the EPI Program?
 - Is it given regularly?

- **Reduction of Peri-Domestic Mosquitoes**
 - Are local mosquitoes potential vectors of YF?
 - Do people store water safely?
 - Are potential breeding sites common?
 - Is there health education / activities to reduce mosquitoes?